

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 823**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Dickinson**

February 17, 2011

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An act to add Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 96050) to Title 15 of the Government Code, relating to children's services.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 823, as introduced, Dickinson. Children's Cabinet of California.

Existing law, the California Early Intervention Services Act, requires the Secretary of the Health and Human Services Agency and the Superintendent of Public Instruction to provide a statewide system of coordinated, comprehensive, family-centered, multidisciplinary, interagency programs responsible for providing appropriate early intervention services and support to all eligible infants and toddlers and their families.

This bill would establish the Children's Cabinet of California to consist of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Secretary of California Health and Human Services, and the head of each agency and department within the state that provides services for, or has jurisdiction over the well being of, children, and would set forth its powers and duties, including promoting and implementing information sharing, collaboration, increased efficiency, and improved service delivery among and within the state's child-serving agencies, departments, and organizations.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 96050) is added to Title 15 of the Government Code, to read:

CHAPTER 2. CHILDREN'S CABINET OF CALIFORNIA

96050. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

(a) All state agencies and programs that touch the lives of children and youth must work in a coordinated and comprehensive fashion, with an emphasis on providing a continuum of services that benefit children, from prenatal care through programs supporting successful transition to self-sufficient adulthood.

(b) The Legislature, in collaboration with the Governor, intends to develop and implement a shared vision among the branches of government in order to improve child and family outcomes in this state.

(c) By working collaboratively with the Governor, the Legislature intends to do all of the following:

(1) Invest in the education and skills of our children and youth.

(2) Develop a cohesive vision and plan that ensures a long-term commitment to issues regarding children and youth.

(3) Align public resources serving children and youth to support their healthy growth and development.

(4) Promote increased efficiency and improved service delivery by all government agencies that provide services to children and youth, and their families.

96051. (a) The Children's Cabinet of California is hereby established within state government. The cabinet shall consist of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Secretary of California Health and Human Services, and the head of each agency and department within the state that provides services for, or has jurisdiction over the well being of, children.

(b) The cabinet shall promote and implement information sharing, collaboration, increased efficiency, and improved service delivery among and within the state's child-serving agencies, departments, and organizations.

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